

**Patent claims**

1. Insertion instrument for a multi-part  
5 intervertebral endoprosthesis (9) which comprises  
two closure plates (91, 92) and a sliding core  
(93) arranged between these, said insertion  
instrument having a handgrip part (21, 31),  
10 gripping members which hold the closure plates  
between them, and a force-receiving part for  
applying an insertion force to the intervertebral  
endoprosthesis (9),

characterized in that

15 the gripping members are guided movably toward and  
away from one another via a hinge (4) and are able  
to be tensioned against the intervertebral  
endoprosthesis (9), projections (51, 52) pointing  
20 in the tensioning direction (12) or recesses for  
holding the intervertebral endoprosthesis (9) with  
a form-fit are formed on the gripping members, and  
a block (61) guided in the longitudinal axis  
direction (10) and with an abutment surface (62)  
25 is provided which can be moved by means of an  
actuating device (7) so as to bear on the  
intervertebral endoprosthesis (9) and, in its  
forward position, secures the intervertebral  
endoprosthesis (9) against the projections (51 52)  
30 or recesses.

2. Insertion instrument according to Claim 1,

characterized in that

35 the insertion instrument is designed as a forceps  
(1), whose jaw parts (22, 32) form the gripping  
parts.

3. Insertion instrument according to Claim 1 or 2,

characterized in that

5 the actuating device (7) is a rod (71) with a handle (72) arranged in the rear area of the handgrip part (21).

4. Insertion instrument according to Claim 3,

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characterized in that

the rod (71) is provided with a screw thread (73) and is guided in a counterthread which is fixed on  
15 the instrument and arranged preferably in the hinge (4).

5. Insertion instrument according to one of Claims 2 to 4,

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characterized in that

the actuating device (7) is guided through the hinge (4).

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6. Insertion instrument according to one of Claims 1 to 5,

characterized in that

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the handle (72) is designed as a strike head (76).

7. Insertion instrument according to one of Claims 1 to 6,

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characterized in that

a locking device (8) is provided for securing the handgrip parts (21, 31) in the position when

pressed together, said locking device (8) having a guide (85) for the actuating device (7).

- 5        8.    Insertion instrument according to one of the preceding claims,

characterized in that

10        the projections (51, 52) are arranged on jaw inserts (53) which are fastened releasably on the jaw parts (22, 32).